

Time to Uphold Aloft Banner of Independence in Europe



Ogami Ken-ichi

Secretary General, International Institute of Juche Idea

Esteemed Prof. Edmond Jouve, Director General of the European Regional Society for the Study of the Juche Idea (ERSSJI),

Esteemed Prof. Matteo Carbonelli, Secretary General of the ERSSJI,

Esteemed directors of the ERSSJI Board and dear friends,

I would like to express my congratulations on successfully holding the European regional seminar on the Juche idea through your laudable preparations.

I. Ours Is the Time When Imperialism Declines, People Make the World Independent

Today, the tide toward independence is taking place in every region and country over the world, and it comes to be a flow that cannot be stopped.

It is a memorable feature of the current situation that the forces of independence have appeared in each country of the world including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and they are forcing imperialism to decline.

In North Africa and the Middle East, from 2010 to 2012, the enormous incidents remaking history to collapse long-period dictatorship happened one after another.

The flow of change started with Tunisia.

Right after a young man, who had not had a job, committed suicide by fire in December, 2010 the protests against the government were raised across the country.

President Ben Ali put forward an appeasement policy to get the situation under control, but he escaped to Saudi Arabia in January, 2011 bowing to people's demands for his resignation.

That the administration having continued oppression for 20 years or so collapsed made affect to its neighboring countries in a moment and led to the collapse of long-period dictatorship of Egypt, Libya and Yemen.

In Egypt, the then administration had imposed restrictions on freedom of speech by making most parties illegal and placing meetings under a ban. It also had conducted policies to get along with the US and Israel and kept a distance from other Arab countries.

The energy of the people opposing the Egyptian authority as such which stored up for a long time was exploded and the demonstrations against them on the scale of one million people were held. Under the situation, the Mubarak administration was overthrown after its three decades dictatorship.

The Gaddafi administration in Libya had taken the strongest stand against the US in Middle East before, but he went in to economic restriction and military threat by the US and accepted the inspections of nuclear facilities in 2003. He conducted pro-US policies actively such as promoting establishment of diplomatic relations with the

US in 2006.

In February, 2011 the administration for 40 years or so was put an end to by the demonstrations against the government demanding for his resignation along with military intervention of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

In Yemen in January 2011, demonstrations against the administration and disaffection in the army occurred one after another, then in November the Saleh administration reigning over 30 years or so broke down.

The avalanche of political changes in North Africa and the Middle East was named the "Arab Spring" by Western media in the expectation of spreading Western-style "democracy."

However, three years later now from the political changes in North Africa and the Middle East, the situation in which societies are in a mess and remain stagnant is continuous and those countries follow the path of cusp.

Especially in Syria, it is said more than 40 armed groups from abroad including France are intervening into there and expanding armed struggles against the government. About 10 million refugees inside and outside the country are being generated there.

It shows that a series of those political changes are related to imperialism, and it is not like that a society centering on the people comes to be built by itself if only dictatorships are overthrown.

What is important after turning over

dictatorships is aiming at independence of the country and making the people masters of the country. It is also of importance to rely on the people without depending on other countries and wage struggles in the self-reliance spirit.

In Latin America, the idea of Simon Bolivar who struggled to realize the unity of Latin America has been alive in the people's minds and most countries in the region are upholding the Anti-imperialism and independence.

In Bolivia, in 2006 President Evo Morales as the first president from the indigenous people there took office and has conducted the policies like nationalizing petroleum and giving those indigenous people the right to possess lands confiscated from big landowners.

Nevertheless, there is a fact that a part of those indigenous people and peasants there are complaining to the Morales administration by means of strike activities and riots.

Venezuela has the richest oil deposits in the world.

President Hugo Chavez upholding socialism of the 21st century carried out the socialistic politics to implement free education and provide with the houses to live, etc. on the basis of substantial petroleum resources.

His politics improved the lives of the indigenous people and the poor who had been forced to lead hard lives until then.

Notwithstanding, there is a fact that some people are against the government by putting priority on making their only self lives affluent without being able to have a full

awareness as masters of the country.

The percentage of President Hugo Chavez's vote against the total poll continued to reduce from 62% in 2006 to 55% in 2012.

In 2013, after the demise of President Hugo Chavez, that of the newly-elected President Nicolas Maduro, the successor to the late President, declined to 50%.

In Venezuela, now, it is said that people are experiencing a lack of commodities and high inflation and their lives become greatly unstable.

Of course, it is important to realize the material demand of the people, but it is necessary to put priority on raising their consciousness as the master of their country.

Additionally, what featured the flow of independence was the unity of Europe as an historical event.

In the postwar years, European countries mapped out the course of unity of Europe in order to ensure the development in the region against the American globalism and then, they organized the European Union (EU) in 1993.

Nowadays, the EU is the first and the US is the second in the world in terms of gross domestic product (GDP).

It can be said that the formation of the EU made it possible to put a break on the US' act to dominate the world unilaterally.

Similarly, what makes the flow of independence is the act of the BRICs comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa which are the emerging countries. Those emerging countries have appeared with

the growth of globalization, and have attained economic development through the investment of a glut of money by the capitalist and industrial countries.

In view of the percentage in the share of global GDP accounted for by developed countries and emerging countries, we can find that that of emerging countries has rapidly increased compared to developed countries.

According to a Morgan Stanley survey, about the percentage in the share of global GDP in comparison between in 1998 and 2013, that of the emerging countries is increasing from 38% to 50%, while that of the developed countries is substantially decreasing from 62% to 50%, which shows the decline of their position in the world.

When you also see the "rate in the export to the emerging countries in total" in comparison between in 1997 and 2012, it is obvious that that of the Eurozone is increasing by 21%, of the US by 43% and of Japan by 59%, which means that the economic dependence of the developed countries on the emerging countries is getting stronger. Now the BRICs becomes a force not to be ignored.

Like the British Empire which used to act arbitrarily and weakened afterwards and therefore came to be called "the tiger pulled the fangs," the US of today also shows the end of imperialism.

The US in the postwar period has tried to subordinate other countries in the world by her main three pillars: political domination utilizing the United Nations (UN), economic

domination in use of the dollar as the key currency, and military domination based on nuclear deterrence.

Today the US' three pillars are collapsing.

The influence of the US on the UN has declined and instead its overdue payments of contributions to the UN budget are being raised about.

The US dollar has finished its role as the key currency.

The US' military threat by using nuclear weapons makes no sense since independent countries with nuclear weapons possessed have appeared in the world.

The US is obliged to implement a large reduction plan of her national defense by 500 billion dollars in ten years onwards. The US defense budget was reduced in such a way as it was 700 billion dollars in 2010, which went to 600 billion dollars in 2013.

The US falling into financial difficulty withdrew her 170,000 troops or so in 2011 from Iraq mired in confusion. It is scheduled that the US will withdraw her another 70,000 troops or so from Afghanistan at the end of 2014.

In September 2013 President Barack Obama said in his speech, "America is not the world's police," which caused wide ripples in the countries depending on the US.

President Barack Obama made a round of visit to Asia as part of the execution of the US strategy focusing on the Asia-Pacific region.

The background of his visit to Asia is that the US, which is no longer able to dominate

the world by herself, is aiming at building a system to mobilize militarily Asian countries including Japan.

According to "the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR)" published by the US Department of Defense, the US plans that by 2020, 60% of her Navy assets will be stationed in the Asia-Pacific region.

Specifically speaking, by 2017, the US will deploy two more AEGIS cruisers to Japan and the US and the Republic of Korea (ROK) will enlarge the number and scale of joint military exercises in the Korean Peninsula.

The military intervention to Iraq and Afghanistan resulted in that the US lost many of her soldiers and aggravated her financial deficit.

Now the US public opinions tend to think that they should put weight on solving the domestic problems such as the issues of student loans and unemployment and have no time to interfere the problems of other countries.

That is related to the circumstances of the country in which the gaps between the rich and the poor are getting bigger each day.

The issue of the remarkable gaps between the developing countries in the south suffering from the poverty and the developed capitalistic and industrial countries in the north was once raised in the world as the North-South problem. Even now there is no change in the situation that countries in the south face difficulty, but what has risen up as a new problem recently is the problem of gaps within the capitalistic and

industrial nations.

Statistics said that in the US some people survive barely due to the poverty, whereas some others live in idleness without working.

According to the joint research by the University of California and London School, the percentage of the top 0.5% rich class in the share of the total of the US income is markedly increasing from 7% in 1960 to 18% in 2012 which is more than two times.

According to a survey by Pew Research Center in 2013 autumn, 52% of the people answered that the United States "should mind her own internal business and let other countries get along with their own problem."

The opinion to solve the problem of a country by itself goes with a view on the Japan-US Security Treaty.

Regarding the percentage of people answering the US "had better continue" Japan-US Security Treaty, comparing to the percentage between in 2012 and in 2013, the rates of intellectuals and ordinary people in the US are rapidly reducing from 90% to 60% level.

Today most of the US people are clearly against the government to intervene in the problems outside the country.

Results of a latest survey by the Wall Street Journal and the NBC News say that the approval rate of President Obama fell into a record-low 41% and the disapproval rate reached a record high 54%, which shows that the US people take a harsh view of him.

Since the US, which was proud of her

prosperity, has a lot of problems inside the country, she cannot invade other foreign countries by herself as before and has come to make its allies bear a burden. It can be said that the domination of the US has collapsed by now.

II. Kimilsung-Kimjongilism Is a Guiding Idea of the Era of Independence

Ours is the era of independence when imperialism has been going downhill towards its end, which comes to be obvious to everyone.

However, imperialism will never hand over its position as reactionary forces by itself. The more it falls in difficulties, the more it comes to be brute and take to violence.

It can be said that only the existence of independent forces that can hold their ground against imperialism and face it made it possible to carve out the independent era.

The era has been carved out by President Kim Il Sung who won the struggle against imperialism. The President made great contributions to the independent cause of human beings by expelling imperialism that had boasted of its "mighty" in those days to be defeated.

In order to liberate Korea under the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism, President Kim Il Sung waged struggles while relying on the people.

As there were no regular forces, the President and the people fought against

Japanese imperialists for nearly two decades and led Korea to independence by producing arms for themselves in a spirit of self-reliance.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) was founded in 1948 and on the following year, in 1949 the People's Republic of China was founded. They embarked on their way for socialism.

It was the US that plotted to invade the DPRK to curb the growing national liberation movements and the expansion of socialist forces. The US opened fire by commanding the South Korean armed forces in June 1950.

The just-founded DPRK bravely fought for itself against the "UN forces" bringing 16 countries headed by the US.

Even the "UN forces," which was overwhelmingly superior in view of armed forces, were forced to be defeated when they faced with the might of the Korean People's Army and the people united firmly around the President. In 1953, three years afterwards, the DPRK and the US concluded an armistice agreement.

That US imperialism as a ringleader of the imperialist forces went downhill was originated with the DPRK's victory in the Korean War. The victory of the DPRK in the struggles against the two imperialist countries, Japan and the US ushered in the era of independence.

The victory of the DPRK in the war gave the world people courage and belief that how small the country is, it would surely win victory if the people fight for justice and their

motherland with the unity of themselves.

Then after, the US was defeated in the Vietnam War, and entering the 21st century, she could not help but withdraw from Afghanistan and Iraq after reducing the both countries to ruins in the respective wars.

In the process of the unrivaled difficult struggles, President Kim Il Sung founded the people-centred Juche idea. The more difficulty he faced, the more the President waged the struggle by uniting people's power and relying on their self-conscious passion.

The ultimate goal of the revolution is to realize the people's independence completely, and for which they should go along the way of socialism.

Since the establishment of a socialist system, the DPRK has continued to build the society with the people at its center where they can fulfill their happy and lively lives to the most, by continuously developing politics, the economy and culture being based on the theory of the continuous revolution guided by the President.

The Juche idea was developed and enriched by General Secretary Kim Jong Il.

After the demise of President Kim Il Sung, the US made a plot to collapse the DPRK that faced with the economic shocks by the collapse of the USSR and some of the European countries and numerous natural disasters. However, General Secretary Kim Jong Il, who put forward the Songun politics, shattered absolutely the imperialist maneuvers to collapse the DPRK.

Furthermore, he cleared the truth of socialism and the inevitability of its victory through publishing his works on and on including "The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party," "Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable," and "Socialism Is a Science."

Today the Korean people united firmly around their leader are safeguarding and developing Korean socialism regarding it as the most precious one to them.

The DPRK has been going along the road of Songun to protect the road of independence, the road of socialism from the imperialists' maneuvers for its collapse.

The DPRK has become a nuclear country by having conducted her nuclear testing three times by now, as the means of self-protection against the US nuclear scheme, which plays a role as nuclear deterrent.

About the denuclearized Korean Peninsula, the Korean National Defense Commission says that "The denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula was behests of President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il and a policy task which the party, state, army and people of the DPRK have to carry out without fail." On the other hand, it says that "The legitimate status of the DPRK as a nuclear weapons state will go on and on without vacillation whether others recognize it or not until the whole Korean Peninsula is denuclearized and the nuclear threats from outside are put to a final end." Only when they firmly safeguard their own country, can they guarantee tomorrow's

happiness of their own people.

The victory of people's struggle and socialism is guaranteed by the existence of a distinguished leader and the decisive role of the progressive idea.

Marx wrote "The Capital" and revealed the way to liberate the oppressed working class who were put in the capital chains.

He also cleared materialistic dialectics explaining that the world comprising materials changes and develops, and thus put socialism on the scientific basis.

Lenin built a socialist country in 1917 for the first time in history, as a result of leading the Russian Revolution to victory based on Marxism.

The Juche idea raised the question of the relationship between the world and man as the fundamental question of philosophy, and clarified the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything.

That "man is the master of everything" gives an answer to the question of the position of human being in the world, and that "man is the master of everything" shows the role of human being played in the world.

The socio-historic principles of Juche were elucidated by the clarification of the philosophical principle of Juche.

The socio-historic principles of Juche explain that the masses of the people who transform nature and society are the subject of history and that social movement is an independent, creative and conscious movement of the people.

In his talk "Let Us Brilliantly Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Juche, Holding the Great Comrade Kim Jong Il in High Esteem as the Eternal General Secretary of Our Party" on April 6, 2012, First Secretary Kim Jong Un says that Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is an integral system of the idea, theory and method of Juche and a great revolutionary idea representing the Juche era.

Kimilsung-Kimjongilism is an overall expression of the revolutionary thoughts of President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il. First Secretary Kim Jong Un formulated the ideas and theories of the President and the General Secretary as Kimilsung-Kimjongilism, saying that the ideas and achievements of President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il are inseparably related to each other.

It is only the First Secretary, succeeding the cause of independence royal to the President and the General Secretary to the most, who can formulate Kimilsung-Kimjongilism. We can say that Kimilsung-Kimjongilism is embodied by First Secretary Kim Jong Un.

The integral system of the idea, theory and method of Juche means that Kimilsung-Kimjongilism consists of the Juche idea and the revolutionary theory and the Juche-oriented method of leadership clarified on the basis of the Juche idea.

The Juche idea is composed of its philosophical principle, socio-historic principles and guiding principles.

Among the revolutionary theories, the

theory of national liberation, of class emancipation and of human emancipation and the like are systematized.

The method of leadership includes such method of giving priority to ideological work, that of arousing the passion and creative positiveness of the people and relying on them.

The history of the DPRK is the one that has developed revolution and construction with Kimilsung-Kimjongilism as a guideline.

On February 25, 2014, at the 8th Conference of Ideological Officials of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), First Secretary Kim Jong Un said that the revolutionaries of Korea rallied comrades and obtained weapons on the strength of the ideology; and on its strength they defeated imperialist powers and built a prospering socialism.

The DPRK not only systematized the revolutionary theory but also shows the superiority and vitality of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism through practices.

Kimilsung-Kimjongilism is the idea that the world people demands for and only Kimilsung-Kimjongilism points a bright future of human beings.

President Kim Il Sung promoted the revolution and construction while relying on the people with his motto "the people are my God," which means that we should deeply worship the people, likening them to God.

General Secretary Kim Jong Il upheld the slogan "We serve the people!," went always among the people and devoted thoroughly all his life to them.

That the General Secretary passed away on the way to give his field guidance symbolizes



Juche idea researchers from the world laying flower baskets in an expression of their tributing homage to President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il (April 2012, Pyongyang)

his life that he dedicated his heart and soul to the people.

It can be said that the path followed by President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il was the one of love for the people and to safeguard the independence of the people.

The ideological characteristic of First Secretary Kim Jong Un is the people-first doctrine in brief. The First Secretary follows the way adhered to by the President and the General Secretary under the people-first doctrine, succeeding their ideas of believing in the people as in heaven.

On January 29, 2013 First Secretary Kim Jong Un said, "Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is, in essence, the people-first doctrine and a person who worships the people as God and works devotedly for them is just a genuine Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist" at the Fourth Meeting of Secretaries of Cells of the WPK.

The people-first doctrine is the idea that demands to worship the people as God and devotedly serves them. First Secretary Kim Jong Un puts forward the slogan "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them," thoroughly takes the people as masters of society, and renders devoted service to them.

The reason why the First Secretary devotes himself to the people in that way is that the people are the most valuable and powerful beings in the world and that the life to dedicate oneself to the people is the most proud and valuable life.

At every opportunity the First Secretary

highlights that the interests and convenience of the people should be taken into consideration preferentially and absolutely and officials should make devoted efforts until their shoes are worn out.

For people to heighten their position and develop their role as masters of their country, it is inevitable for them to make a deep understanding of Kimilsung-Kimjongilism, which made it clear that people are the most valuable and powerful beings in the world.

III. Path of Independence Europe follows

In the ideological history of human kind, Europe is the birthplace of Marxism that contributed greatly to the history.

In the middle of the 19th century, Marx clarified the process to reach socialism by giving analysis to the social situation of the countries like Britain, France and Germany where the economy had developed at the highest level in those days.

Marx regarded: when productivity develops and reaches a certain level, the relations between capitalists and workers would become fetters in terms of the development of productivity.

Marx said: a revolution would take place to build new relations of production in line with the productivity.

Marx clarified: the working class would grasp the means of production and political administration and then socialism would be realized.

However, in Britain, France and Germany that had attained high productivity did not moved on to socialism but instead in those countries like the DPRK, China and Cuba whose productivity was low, socialism won victory.

Likewise, history shows that the key to social change does not lie in the development of productivity but does in the strength of the popular masses being aware of the progressive ideas and politically united.

So, it has become more important to make the people awakened and organized as masters of the country both nominally and virtually than to develop productivity.

Europe passed through its history of achieving its economic development through invading other nations, plundering their resources and exploiting the people in other countries.

In the Era of Great Discovery such nations as Spain, Portugal and the Netherlands took vast majority of the indigenous people from the African continent to Europe, overused them as slaves, and deprived them of their natural resources, thus piling up enormous wealth.

Such countries as Britain, France and Germany whose capitalism was formed and developed starting from the industrial revolution, came to invade individual countries in the world.

In the past there also was a history in relation to Germany, Italy and Japan who used to form the Axis powers, conduct their dictatorial politics and kill the massive innocent people.

During World War II, the Axis powers and the Allied powers including Britain, France, the US, China and the USSR were up against each other and the latter won victory.

After the War, the NATO was established in 1949 with those nations in the Allied powers at the centre in order to hold in check the Axis powers for their fascistization.

Under the Cold War system, West Germany was requested to achieve economic restoration to cope with the Eastern bloc. West Germany by being admitted to rearm herself joined the NATO in 1955.

Then after, the NATO changed its character and became to function as an international organization to be opposed to socialism and communism. The fact that West Germany who used to be part of the Axis powers joined the NATO shows the change in its role.

Due to its dependence on the US powerful military forces, the NATO has its commandership in the US, while it has its headquarters in Belgium.

Since the frustration of the Cold War system, the NATO has come to show its aggressive nature more outwardly, opposing not only the Eastern bloc but also the independent forces.

The NATO attacked Serbia from air in 1994 in the Bosnian War. It was the first war action conducted by the NATO.

Since then, the NATO intervened directly wars in Kosovo and Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, the NATO has been operating its security work since the US forces withdrew

from there.

In 2011, the NATO forces attacked Libya from air to collapse the Gaddafi administration.

Recently, the NATO has intervened in Ukraine which resulted into the situation that is much tenser relating to Russia.

Imperialism has invasion and plunder as its nature, which would never be changed of itself.

After World War II, the US who had tried to dominate the world with her powerful military forces and nuclear deterrence never won victory in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Iraq War and the War in Afghanistan. History proves that the US cannot dominate other nations with armed forces any longer.

The NATO's intervention into the conflicts of individual nations has made the situation complicated and prevented the people in those nations from solving their problems by themselves.

It can be said that the NATO's arbitrariness is anachronistic today when there has emerged the trend of independence everywhere in the world.

After World War II, Europe formed the EU where people are intercommunicating freely within this region and aspired after a path of development in such a way to respect the independence of its member nations and cooperate among themselves.

Nevertheless, Europe is now characterized by bipolarization of the rich countries and the poor countries as a result that the law of the jungle and free competition peculiar to capitalism has been penetrated into this region.

The economic growth rate of the poorer nations is declining and unemployment rate is increasing.

While there are rich countries with the advanced economy like Germany and France, there are some other countries like Spain, Portugal, Greece and Italy whose economy has stagnated.

It was in 2008 when the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy occurred and had influence over Europe.

The Greek bubble economy burst that year and faced a crisis. That extended to the Euro crisis in Europe as a whole.

At the beginning when the Euro was recognized as the key currency in the EU, there was equality between the value of the respective national bonds of individual countries in the region including that between Germany and Greece. However, immediately after the Greek's new administration announced the deficit in its financial status, the value of its national bonds sharply dropped, while the national bonds of Germany whose economy was relatively strong were bought more. So, it is the situation that Germany is beating anyone else within the Eurozone.

At present the unemployment rate in the Eurozone has marked the worst in the past records. Not only that, within individual nations in the Eurozone gaps between the rich and the poor have been widened, resulting into intensifying bipolarization. In the Eurozone the unemployment rate of youngsters between 15-year old and 25-year old is high in

particular. The youth unemployment rate in the Eurozone: 57.3% in Greece, 56.5% in Spain and 39.5% in Italy. It is abnormal that such large number of the youth population in some countries like more than half of them are unemployed. (Source: announced by the EU Representatives in July 2013)

In case of France, she who cannot attain economic profits in the Eurozone, has involved herself in an imperialist invasion and plunder by intervening other nations such as Syria and Ukraine and the like.

Likely, the tendency of bipolarization in Europe has been strengthened and the gaps between the rich and poor nations within Europe widened each year rather than on the decrease.

The European people, who learn lessons from the history that they invaded other nations while their own people were damaged a great deal, are seeking after their political path that makes it possible for individual nations to be united and develop in peace.

Looking at its generation and the process of its development, imperialism has always been of violence and operating under the law of the jungle.

For individual nations in Europe it is important to cooperate with one another within the region, of course. However, if they do not establish independence, they would become dependent on other nations and become the

target of being exploited and plundered by other nations.

In Europe it is an important task to make individual nations in this region independent. Only when individual nations become independent, can they build up relations of equality and mutual respect.

The DPRK is advancing along the path of independence, the path of socialism. The reason why Korea is developing each day, say developing today more than yesterday, developing tomorrow more than today lies in that she is advancing in line with Kimilsung-Kimjongilism.

When Europe advances along the path indicated by Kimilsung-Kimjongilism, it will be able to carve out the bright future.

The path indicated by Kimilsung-Kimjongilism is the path of independence, the path of self-reliance and the path of peace. We can foresee the path of socialism open up ahead.

It will be important for us to pay attention to the DPRK who is splendidly facing with imperialism on the front line, and be in solidarity with the Korean people.

It will be a prerequisite for us to study Kimilsung-Kimjongilism by ourselves and disseminate this ideology among the broad masses of the people.

Let us advance along the cause of global independence upholding aloft the banner of independence in Europe.